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ANNUAL REPORT

— OF THE —

TOWN OFFICERS

— OF —

WALPOLE, N. H.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1st, 1885.



LIVERMORE B. Co. Stationers and Printers, Lowell, Mass.
NEW HAMPSHIRE
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ANNUAL REPORT

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WALPOLE, N. H.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1st, 1885.



LIVERMORE BROS., Steam Printers, Bellows Falls, Vt.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

Valuation of the Town of Walpole, as appraised by the Selectmen, April 1, 1884, for the purpose of taxation.

Value of Real Estate,	\$972,708 00
“ 598 Polls.	59,800 00
“ 510 Horses,	35,682 00
“ 129 Oxen,	8,732 00
“ 723 Cows,	24,622 00
“ 427 Other Cattle,	10,578 00
“ 11167 Sheep,	36,144 00
“ 110 Hogs,	798 00
“ 21 Carriages,	1,410 00
“ Stock in public funds,	3,700 00
“ Stock in banks,	40,600 00
“ Stock in corporations,	2,000 00
“ Stock in trade,	20,170 00
“ Money on hand,	204,300 00
“ Toll bridge,	10,000 00
	\$1,431,244 00

Taxes Assessed for the Following Appropriations, Voted March 11, 1884.

State tax,	\$2,964 00	
County tax,	2227 70	
Support of Schools,	3500 00	
Town library,	200 00	
For other town purposes,	1158 30	\$10050 00
Highway tax paid in labor,	2000 00	
Amount of taxes on dogs,	152 00	

District Taxes Assessed.

School District No. 1,	\$650 00
" " 2,	525 00
" " 9,	90 78
" " 14,	55 00
Village precinct,	200 00

Orders Drawn For Payment of Town Officers.

Henry Burt, Selectman,	\$183 00
C. R. Crowell, Selectman,	162 00
A. R. P. Robinson, Selectman,	68 00
C. R. Crowell, Moderator,	5 00
A. P. Richardson, Town Clerk,	50 00
S. H. Porter, Superintendent School Committee,	12 00
George Aldrich, " " "	78 00
T. B. Buffam, Treasurer,	25 00
J. W. Prentiss, Jr., Collector of taxes,	90 00
C. B. Lucke, Supervisor, two years,	25 00
B. E. Webster, " " "	25 00
Henry C. Rawson, " " "	25 00
	\$748 00

Town Paupers.

D. W. Brosnahan, goods for Mrs. E. Tole,	\$ 36 59
L. G. & C. E. Howard, Coal " "	3 75
Daniel O'Brien, milk " "	9 06
J. E. Hartwell, board and care of Calvin Graves,	248 00
Concord Insane Asylum, board of John Tole, Jr	41 33
Dr. H. Ingham, medical attendance on Calvin Graves,	3 75
Cheshire County, support of Chas. Farnsworth,	58 50
H. A. Perry, expense of transportation, John Tole, Jr. to and from Concord,	21 10
Andrew Weber, support of Carrie Weber,	72 00
Cheshire County, support Mary Ann Wellington,	272 50
Perry & Porter, goods for E. E. Stowell,	2 50
" " Mr. Young,	35
Henry Dodge, wood for Patrick Carroll,	3 00
P. Brady, care Mrs. " "	2 00
	\$774 43

County Paupers.	
Perry & Porter, goods for Mrs. Burnham,	3 03
W. W. Warn, board and care of Elizabeth Warn,	79 50
D. W. Brosnahan, goods for Mrs. Delaney,	131 42
A. R. P. Robinson, moving Mrs. Picket and children,	12 00
F. A. Lebourveau, carrying paupers to county farm,	9 00
Conway & Sullivan, goods, Mrs. Trotter & Mrs. Delaney,	26 02
Dr. Geo. A. Blake, medical attendance on Wm. G. Evans,	2 25
Dr. A. P. Richardson, “ “	2 00
Mrs. M. J. Comstock, board and care of “	12 50
C. R. Crowell, carrying Wm. G. Evans to Bartonsville,	5 00
C. C. Davis, medicine for Wm. G. Evans,	7 56
Richard Knapp, board and care of Phebe Dodge,	31 50
R. S. Blanchard, services as sexton in burying Sophronia Graves,	3 00
	\$324 78

E. C. Whitmore, printing town reports,	\$38 00
A. P. Richardson, stamps and stationery,	2 50
W. H. Spalter, record books,	5 70
C. C. Davis, warrants, check lists, tax blanks and stationery,	40 49
	\$ 86 69

D. N. Wright, for snowing bridge,	\$16 80
J. A. Farwell, chestnut timber for sills at east end of bridge,	16 00
Cheshire Railroad, freight on stone for wing wall, east end of bridge,	21 88
D. H. Reed, granite for above named wall,	10 73
L. S. Cady, work on wall and railing,	27 63
Thos. Murray work “	5 62
J. W. Raymond, “	20 55
Burt. Kinary, work filling,	2 80
John Harty, “	6 00
E. N. Albee, work on wall,	5 00

Willard Russell & Co., use of derrick,	6 00
Osgood & Barker, repairing derrick,	6 00
Charles Gates, drawing timber and derrick,	3 50
Thos. C. Sparhawk, drawing timber and plank,	14 90
B. H. Dwinell, drawing derrick to Bellows Falls,	1 50
Warren Colburn, shingling bridge,	5 25
D. N. Wright, shingling and work on abutment,	15 30
Willis A. Colburn, shingling,	5 25
L. S. Cady, laying plank and other repairs,	16 80
C. R. Crowell, work with team raising stone for wall,	10 50
L. B. Holland, drawing stone for base of pier—1883,	4 50
J. G. Bellows, insuring bridge,	46 00
Perry & Porter, nails and spikes,	7 68
D. W. Pollard & Co., Kerosene for lighting bridge,	6 68
	\$282 47

Breaking Roads.

H. C. Towne,	\$28 83
A. H. Kingman,	7 00
Joseph Kidder,	10 93
Charles Gates,	8 70
F. E. Perkins	5 60
Isac Pratt,	7 40
George W. Goodwin,	3 30
George H. Gassett,	16 99
Robert J. Cochran,	11 10
James Selkirk,	7 20
Haskel C. Towne	12 15
W. E. Roy,	8 60
F. E. Perkins,	2 12
Frank P. Allen,	17 25
Geo. H. Gassett,	7 48
Robert J. Cochran,	2 55
Alfred Watkins,	10 20
A. H. Kingsbury,	3 75
A. K. Adams,	6 75
H. C. Hatch,	1 50
Isac Pratt,	2 75

E. A. Watkins,	14 85
E. E. Webster,	5 50
John C. Brown,	17 79
H. Allen & Son, breaking paths,	18 15
H. C. Towne,	25 75
	\$264 16

Highways and Railings

John Tole, labor,	\$ 1 50
Patrick Carroll, repairing railing,	2 25
Andrew Roy, labor,	5 25
Burt. Kiniry, labor,	5 00
A. K. Adams, making road, District No. 2,	30 96
Everett S. Towne, labor,	1 00
Harding Ball, labor,	8 28
Moses Elliot, labor,	8 74
T. B. Peck, poles for railing,	12 86
Willie Farr, labor,	4 50
J. H. Putney, labor,	27 98
R. A. Howard, labor and Gravel,	8 30
T. C. Sparhawk, " "	12 65
Mathew Tole, maintaining water cistern on highway,	2 50
George R. Jennison, drawing stones,	1 50
Martin J. Buss, labor and gravel,	48 90
F. P. Allen, labor,	10 60
Charlie A. Watkins, labor,	14 45
Isac Pratt, labor,	6 00
John C. Brown, labor gravel and poles for railing,	46 10
J. G. Bellows, gravel,	12 50
W. A. Bond, nails and spikes,	3 47
L. G. & C. E. Howard, drain pipe,	133 10
E. K. Seabury, plank and posts,	8 30
Charles Stowell, labor 1883—4	20 37
H. C. Towne, labor,	4 50

T. H. Lynch, labor,	5 00
L. B. Holland, labor with team,	10 50
D. N. Wright, labor,	2 25
	\$459 31

Building and Repairing Bridges.

C. A. & F. D. Messer, plank for bridge at Drewsville,	\$ 42 00
W. B. Mason, labor on bridge,	4 20
Frank P. Allen, " "	7 00
Amos Gale, " " Drewsville,	5 00
B. H. Dwinnell, plank for bridges,	20 08
Wm. E. Roy, labor repairing bridge and turning brook,	13 75
Amos Gale, lumber and labor on cold river bridge,	13 00
George T. Lewis, bridge plank,	23 45
Charles B. Hall, " "	15 09
Fred Watkins, making culvert,	10 00
Warren Thompson, bridge plank,	25 60
John Selkirk, plank and lumber for bridges and railing,	38 26
Conn. R. R. R. Co., building Stone bridge near Charles-	
town line, 1883,	250 00
Levi Burt, bridge plank,	25 38
Patrick Carroll, snowing bridge and other labor,	8 50
Moses Elliot, snowing bridges,	10 00
	\$511 31

Town House.

R. C. & H. S. Osgood, insuring town house,	\$38 00
R. L. Ball, " "	16 00
Perry & Porter, wood and oil,	6 14
	\$60 14

Cemetery.

R. S. Blanchard, raking leaves, mowing grass &c.,	\$56 65
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Precinct.

H. F. Lynch, 1st Engineer,	\$200 00
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Abatement of Taxes.

T. H. Lynch, tax of 1884,	\$10 16
J. W. Prentiss, Jr., collector of taxes, 1882,	8 70
" " " 1883.	65 08
	\$83 94

Town Library.

C. R. Crowell, for library committee,	\$200 00
see report of library committee.	

Sheep Killed by Dogs.

Henry Burt,	\$18 00
John W. Easterbrook,	24 00
J. W. Prentiss,	12 50
Charles A. Jennings,	7 00
Harding Ball,	10 00
Rufus Leonard,	9 00
	\$80 50

Expenses of Schools.

L. B. Holland, Committee District No. 1,	\$879 88
John Healy, " 2,	867 08
Joseph Kidder, " 3,	178 48
Wm. W. Guild, " 4,	182 84
Wm. C. Graves, " 5,	178 48
Wm. E. Roy, " 6,	130 52
Isaac Pratt, " 7,	126 16
Haskel C. Towne, " 8,	152 32
Mrs. Geo. D. Hooper, " 9,	156 68
Charles M. Houghton, " 10,	165 40
J. W. Easterbrook, " 11,	156 68
O. W. Wood, " 12,	182 84
Geo. B. Emerson, " 13,	156 68
F. H. Holland, " 14,	195 92
	\$3709 96
Town appropriations for schools,	\$3500 00
Library fund from state,	213 36
	\$3713 36

17 schools drew \$100. each,	\$1700 00
461 scholars drew \$4.36 each,	2009 96
Balance of literary fund not used,	3 40
	\$3713 36

Miscellaneous.

Geo. F. Meacham, plans for town hall 1883,	\$ 50 00
Dr. W. B. Porter, reporting births and deaths,	2 75
“ for examining John Tole, Jr.,	2 50
Appropriation for decoration day, E. Committee,	50 00
Bounty paid on woodchucks by selectmen,	146 10
Chas. Fisher, use of road machine,	11 00
M. J. Buss, “ “	7 50
Geo. F. Miller & R. J. Hamilton, reward for arrest of Crandall,	100 00
Chas. Knight, referee in Fletcher case,	2 00
Thos. C. Sparhawk, “	2 00
John Wood, “	2 00
H. N. Fletcher, damages to horse by reason of defect in highway,	30 00
J. W. Prentiss, Jr., discount on taxes 1884,	375 45
Wm. E. Roy, witness fee in case of Fletcher,	1 00
I. F. Kendall, damage to wagon from defective railing,	10 00
John Marshall, “ “ highway,	4 20
Dr. Vincent Gooseline, reporting births and deaths,	6 25
W. E. Knight & Son, repairing hearse and making sled for same,	120 00
C. R. Crowell, use of team and cash paid out,	42 00
J. G. Bellows, services and cash paid out,	18 00
Dr. A. P. Richardson, reporting births and deaths,	5 00
“ “ recording births, deaths, & marriages,	16 70
Dr. Geo. A. Blake, reporting births and deaths,	2 25
Henry E. Putnam, use of team and cash paid out,	46 10
L. B. Holland. “ “	34 00
F. F. Lebourveau, team for police,	1 50
	\$1088 30

Recapitulation.

Town Officers,	\$ 748 00
Town Paupers,	774 43
County Paupers,	324 78
Books, Stationery and Printing,	86 69
Walpole and Westminster Bridge,	282 47
Breaking Roads,	264 16
Highways and Railings,	459 31
Building and Repairing Bridges,	511 31
Abatement of Taxes,	83 94
Town House,	60 14
Cemetery,	56 65
Sheep Killed by Dogs,	80 50
Expense of Schools,	5030 74
Miscellaneous,	1088 30
Town Library,	200 00
Precinct.	200 00
	\$10251 42

Available Town Assets.

Due from Westminster,	\$ 101 73
“ County bills paid since October 1884,	65 00
Taxes of 1883 uncollected,	282 22
“ 1884 “	1916 47
Cash in treasury,	196 23
	\$2561 65

Liabilities.

Town Officers and other unpaid bills, estimated	\$900 00
Assets over liabilities,	\$1661 65

Estimates For 1885.

Town Paupers,	\$ 500 00
Highways and Bridges,	1500 00
Town Officers and Contingent Expenses,	1400 00
Support of Schools,	3000 00
Breaking Roads,	250 00

Town Library,	230 00
State Tax,	2964 00
County Tax,	2230 00
	\$12074 00
Less Savings Bank and Railroad Tax,	2374 00
	\$9700 00

Respectfully submitted,

CURTIS R. CROWELL,
LEONARD B. HOLLAND,
HENRY E. PUTNAM,

} Selectmen
of
Walpole,

Walpole, March 1st, 1885.

REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER

For the Year ending March 1st 1885.

Cash on hand March 1st, 1884,	\$ 679 98
Received of J. W. Prentiss, Jr. Col. of taxes for 1882,	53 83
“ “ interest on same,	4 16
“ “ taxes for 1883,	1633 64
“ “ interest on same,	50 00
“ “ taxes for 1884,	10246 70
“ Westminster on bridge account,	48 13
“ County for paupers,	285 75
“ on highway book,	5 22
“ for lot in cemetery,	20 00
“ license on Pool Table,	25 83
“ lumber sold,	16 44
“ use of town hall,	9 00
“ on orders Nos. 168, 169,	5 00
“ from state bounty on woodchucks,	146 10

"	"	railroad tax,	515 69
"	"	savings bank tax,	1858 31
"	"	literary fund,	213 36
Error in floating order.No. 267,			1 00
			\$15818 14

Disbursements

Paid town orders for 1882,	\$ 156 55
" 1883,	10251 42
Paid state tax,	2964 00
" county tax,	2227 70
" interest,	22 24
Cash on hand,	196 23
	\$15818 14

T. B. BUFFUM, Treasurer.

The undersigned committee appointed to settle with the Selectmen and Treasurer, have examined their accounts and find them well vouched and correctly cast.

E. K. SEABURY,

W. P. CHAPIN.

J. W. PRENTISS, JR.

Report of the

TOWN LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

Receipts.

Cash on hand as per last report,	\$ 1 33
Received of librarian for fines and use of books,	12 81
Town appropriation,	200 00
	\$214 14

Expenses.

Paid for books purchased,	\$ 98 71
Geo. H. Tilden for repairing books,	12 49
Coal and box for coal,	6 57
Flora M. Crowell, librarian to March 1st 1885,	52 00
Paper for covering books,	9 00
Express on books and paper,	1 70
R. L. Ball, rent of room to March 1st, 1885,	30 00
“ work on books,	1 00
Cash on hand,	2 67
	\$214 14

Your committee report the steady growth of our Public Library. One hundred volumes have been added the past year. Mr. B. P. Owen continues to remember us by presenting two volumes of Harper's, and Mr. Henry G. Wheelock kindly presented three volumes of the Century and five volumes English magazines, all of which have been bound and placed for use. Your committee respectfully suggest greater care on the part of some of the patrons of the library in the use and treatment of books. We have reason to believe that in some instances through the carelessness of children or otherwise books are unnecessarily torn and soiled, thereby causing great loss and expense. The library now numbers 2973 volumes, and should it continue to increase as it has in the past a larger room will soon be required; and more shelf room is already needed for the books.

Your committee respectfully recommend and ask for an appropriation to meet the following estimates for the ensuing year.

Estimates for 1885.

Amount now due G. H. Tilden, binding books,	\$ 11 00
Room Rent,	30 00
Librarian,	52 00
Shelves for books,	10 00
Purchase of books,	100 00
Binding and repairing,	27 00
	\$230 00

Respectfully submitted,

C. R. CROWELL,
W. F. HAYWARD,
GEO. S. WILDER,

REPORT OF

Town Superintending School Com.

The seventy-first annual report of the expenditure and working of the town schools is hereby submitted.

There have been thirty-nine different terms of school in town, employing twenty-five different teachers, the past year. The sources from which the money was obtained to meet the school expenditure were as follows: From the town, \$3,500; literary fund, \$213.36; aggregating \$3713.36. In the first division of this sum, \$1700 was appropriated to seventeen schools, each school receiving \$100. The remainder was drawn by the scholar, each scholar in town drawing \$4.36. The following table exhibits the number of scholars and the amount of money each district received:

Dist. No. 1.....	Scholars, 133.....	Amount, \$879 88
“ 2.....	“ 153.....	“ 867 08
“ 3.....	“ 18.....	“ 178 48
“ 4.....	“ 19.....	“ 182 84
“ 5.....	“ 13.....	“ 178 48
“ 6.....	“ 7.....	“ 130 52
“ 7.....	“ 6.....	“ 126 16
“ 8.....	“ 12.....	“ 152 32
“ 9.....	“ 13.....	“ 156 68
“ 10.....	“ 15.....	“ 165 40
“ 11.....	“ 13.....	“ 156 68
“ 12.....	“ 19.....	“ 182 84
“ 13.....	“ 13.....	“ 156 68
“ 14.....	“ 22.....	“ 195 22
461		\$3713 36

By the foregoing table it is seen that the cost to the town, to school 286 scholars in Districts 1 and 2, is \$6.10 per scholar for *thirty-six* weeks, while in the districts outside the above named districts it costs, to school 175 scholars, \$11.23 per capita, with only about two-thirds the length of schools, on an average. In one district \$126.16 was expended in twenty-one weeks, ten weeks on three pupils and eleven weeks on two. The question is, Would a thinking citizen do business like this? If not, let the combined wisdom of the town do better—*consolidate*.

SPECIAL REPORTS.

SUMMER AND FALL SCHOOLS.

The summer schools were wholly in charge of the senior member of the superintending committee. There were fourteen schools in session during summer and fall. A large number of these schools were taught by beginners, many of whom were quite young and not any *too* well qualified.

In District No. 2, Misses Addie Morse and Carrie L. Wightman were employed—two veteran teachers. Miss Wightman had charge of the primary department through the summer and fall terms. It is thought that she succeeded very well, considering the large number of pupils she had in care. Seventy or more pupils, all young, are too many for one teacher. Measures cannot be too speedily taken to provide another school-room for a part of this school. It must be done sooner or later, for the population of North Walpole will not decrease so long as Connecticut river runs on one side of it. Good order was not so punctiliously kept as it had been at our visits to this school under former teachers. However, patrons of the school were well satisfied with her management. She was engaged for the winter term, but a

sad bereavement prevented her from keeping her engagement. Miss Morse sustained the good reputation she has so faithfully earned.

It is regretted that Miss Hattie J. Newton, of Surry, did not continue to teach the school in the Valley through the year, as she was thoroughly acquainted with the pupils there, having taught this school the winter term last year and the summer term this year. Miss J. C. Cummings was employed for the fall term. Miss Newton made her school a success. Miss Cummings' school was no more than fairly taught. A little more schooling would be no detriment to either of these teachers.

The prudential committee in Dist. No. 4 was unfortunate in his efforts to secure a permanent teacher for that district. Instead of one for the year, four were installed there. For the summer school, Miss Alice E. Poole was employed, who met with good success, although her scholarship was not quite up to the current standard of educational requirements. She devoted some time to music, which had a salutary effect on the conduct of her pupils. Miss Jennie L. Dearborn took charge of the fall school and taught comparatively well. It is thought her labors were not fully appreciated by some of her older female pupils; consequently, their conduct towards her was not always lady-like. It is hoped no tales of unbecoming conduct of females will ever occur again in old No. 4.

The school in No. 5 is a pleasant one. It is made up of a class of very orderly, teachable children. It has been favored for several terms with competent, deserving teachers. Miss Emma A. Houghton, who taught successfully in No. 11 last year, took Miss Hall's place in this school the past summer and fall and filled it well. Miss Houghton, if she thinks of making teaching a business, ought to secure a more advanced educational standing by attending some seminary where the higher branches of education are taught as a specialty; then, with her other qualifications, she would be able to command a more generous salary.

The same teacher, Miss Carrie L. Bowman, who taught in No. 6 last year, taught there the present school year. She had six young pupils, who were taught punctuality if nothing more.

Last year the per cent. of attendance was 100; this year, the same. Her labors were appreciated by the committee and satisfactory to her patrons. It is presumed her career as a teacher is ended, for that old mythological torch-bearer has been called to heal the wound that Cupid made with his arrow.

What shall be said of No. 7? "O solitude! where are the charms that sages have seen in thy face?" Miss Nellie E. Allen turned missionary again last summer and taught twenty one weeks on Derry hill. She had three pupils the first term and two the second. They were all young and backward in their studies and it was difficult to determine how much or how little they learned. No doubt Miss Allen pressed them as much as deemed necessary. The teacher could not have been very lonely, for her register gives the names of forty-six visits—more than two visits per week. Is it economy for the town to pay so high tuition for educational privileges?

No. 8. Miss Dora E. Giffin, who was favorably noticed in the last school report was engaged last summer and taught through the season—twenty-one weeks. She sustained her former reputation. She has since been caught in the meshes of matrimony. Well, if she succeeds as well in making good bread or in broiling a rasher of bacon as she has in teaching on Carpenter's hill, no one need grumble for poor cooking.

No. 9. Miss Alice Knight, of Saxton's River, who had previously taught in this district, took charge of the summer term the past year. There was no specialty observed in her methods; but the old beaten track was followed, and under such teaching the school was fairly taught. Miss Fanny E. Jennison, a beginner, taught in the fall. Owing to circumstances beyond the control of the senior member of the committee, the school was not visited at the beginning. The committee heard no fault finding and, as the school was composed of a few young scholars, it is inferred she taught satisfactorily.

No. 10. Dr. Hill of Keene, after the discarding of one applicant for the school in this district, recommended Miss Hattie J. Collins of that place for the position. She sustained herself well in a rigid examination. It was predicted that she would teach a first class school. If her judgment and tact had been equal with

her attainments, she would have succeeded ; but as it was, she only met with an average success. She taught summer and fall terms.

No. 11. Miss Nellie Graves taught there summer and fall with better success than her limited attainments and youth would seem to warrant. She was fully sensible of her weakness and the presumption is that she worked the harder for it. Since closing her school, she has turned pupil. There are three boys in that school who are teachable and anxious to learn. It is hoped that ere long they will secure the advantages of some school of a higher grade.

No. 12. May 9th, '84, Miss Ida B. Way presented herself for examination and was found to have superior scholarship for one of her years. At the committee's first visit there were twelve pupils present. At the close of the school there were but four in attendance. That sickness in the district had its effect on the school is true ; but for want of proper nerve to govern the scholars, it became demoralized and anarchy was the rule. Her success was not what was expected at the commencement of the school. Miss Lizzie E. Alden of Alstead taught the fall school successfully.

No. 13. Miss Harriet U. Emerson of this town taught the full year in the district where she obtained her education. From childhood she has worked hard to master the rudiments of an education and is now a fair scholar. She has had in charge but few pupils, and is thought to have done well by them. One of her scholars, a boy nine years old, commenced the study of Colburn's Arithmetic in the spring, and is now able to master some of the most difficult examples found in the work. Many of our town lads who are in their teens would find themselves confused and shamed at their short-comings if they could hear his recitations. The school room is well ventilated, for one can see the blue sky through the ceiling and roof. Ingress to the school room is easy—all one has to do is to *push*. Egress is more difficult, unless one has long finger nails. In fine, one night travel from Dan to Beersheba and not find such a dilapidated school room.

No. 14. The school in this district in charge of Miss Marie L. Fuller, was roused somewhat from its former lethargic condi-

tion. A class in Geography manifested some interest in map-drawing, which is commended. The order was *good*. Miss Fuller taught the summer and fall terms.

WINTER SCHOOLS.

The summer and fall schools passed off without much friction, save the want of tact on the part of the teacher in No. 12. There were eleven schools in the winter, ten of which commenced about the first of December, and one—No. 9—the middle of January. The promise of a profitable school season seemed to be be foreshadowed, as all the teachers were well qualified, but one, for their positions. They had, as sailors say, “a good offing.” Breakers were first heard in No. 10. Miss Alice M. Titus left her charge in about two weeks claiming illness (?) The next aspirant was Wm. P. Badger whose exit is noticed elsewhere. The third teacher was Miss Nellie V. Kempton of Claremont, and a graduate of Stevens’ High school of that place. To graduate from that institution means respectable scholarship, and she was found on examination to answer the requirements of law. Still, it is claimed by parties that her qualifications are deficient (See general remarks). Scarletina in the district took several pupils from the school, three more left for reasons best known to themselves and one left because he could not obey the teacher. Card playing worked its way into this school, and, also, into No. 4 school room which called for the interposition of the Supt. Committee to extirpate. The influence of card playing on the mind of youth will not be discussed here. All that need be said now is that when cards stalk in at the door of the school room studies fly out at the window. Now, with so many disturbing factors in one school—what? The answer is this: the school commenced with 19 pupils and closed with 6, who manifested but little interest in their studies. The failure of success, in this school, was not wholly chargeable to the teacher. Mr. Houghton, with the experience of last year as prudential committee, will be willing, at the next school meeting, to let the official mantle, with all its emoluments and honors attached, fall on another’s shoulders. Miss Cummings, of whom mention has been made as teacher in No. 3, was not a favorite with the Supt. Committee; but on the statement of the prudential committee

that she was well liked, she was permitted to take charge of the winter school. Well, the consequences are that, probably, she has played her last school card in Walpole, as teacher—not a *winning* card, but the *deuce*—in other words, her school was a failure.

Miss Morse in No. 2 grammar school did her work faithfully and closed her year's service by adding new laurels to her former reputation. Miss Hattie C. Riley in the Primary school No. 2 failed in discipline; but it is presumed she did as well as she knew how. There are but few persons who possess the faculty of keeping good order in the school room, especially where there are so many small, uneasy pupils. A note from the teacher at a late hour states that she has brought her school under good discipline and everything is going on satisfactorily to herself. The schools in Nos. 12 and 14 were visited Feb. 5th. Miss Lizzie E. Alden in No. 12, who taught here in the fall, achieved remarkable success in the winter school. No teacher has done better in town for many years. The recitations were good, and the reading by the whole school was faultless. In Miss Lilla L. Phelps' school in No. 14, it was found that by her efforts her pupils have been brought out of dreamland and are now on the road to prosperity. All that is needed now is, for the district not to be "penny wise and pound foolish." Miss Phelps not only knows how to teach, but is a rare scholar, and has had experience. It is hoped that the services of the last two named teachers will be secured in our schools another year. The suggestions that were made in the last school report in relation to planting shade trees and grading the play ground in this district, have been faithfully carried out under the supervision of Mr. Willard T. Blanchard. Some Mural maps are now wanted. Who will prove himself a benefactor by passing the hat round?

Miss Hattie U. Emerson closed her year's experience in No. 13 the 20th of February. She did well for the little ones under her care, considering the surroundings. Miss Myra S. Chatterton, in No. 5, closed her school the same day as above. Her school was not a success. She was content to go in the old beaten path, and not go fast in that. She had no specialty in her school, nor did she manifest any pride in the recitations of her pupils. A few of

the older boys made a good showing in Arithmetic. One boy had nearly completed Messervey's Book-keeping during the term ; but otherwise the school was without much interest. Miss Fanny E. Jennison's school in No. 11 was suspended near its close on account of the teacher's illness. No murmurings were heard, the patrons of the school were well satisfied, therefore it is inferred that the school was a good one. The winter school in No. 9, taught by Miss Annie F. Garroty was a fair one. It commenced about the middle of January and was in session but a few weeks, consequently but one visit was made. Soon after the commencement of the school in No. 4 the teacher had a fall and received such injuries that she had to abandon her school ; but immediately Miss Alice E. Shaw of Bellows Falls, Vt., was installed there. Miss Shaw is a lady of good attainments, gentle disposition and of good faculty to impart knowledge. At the commencement of her school some of her pupils manifested a recalcitrant disposition and did not realize a full sense of propriety during the term. Whispering obtained, is one of the most difficult evils to banish from the school room ; yet in most of the schools in town, it has ceased to be a nuisance. It appears, on good authority, that two large *girls* in this school took the whispering department on their shoulders for the town the past winter, with what benefit to themselves "deponent saith not. The most damaging feature of this business is, that it was done under false pretenses. If this school was not a success no blame is to be attributed to the teacher. The factors that contributed to a want of success must be looked for beyond her.

GENERAL REMARKS

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

The question often arises, What is to be done in order to secure better qualified teachers in our town?

The committee has examined twenty-nine teachers the past year, and approbated twenty-eight. Twenty-four have taught, near-

ly one-half of whom were young and beginners. A few of the remainder never should have begun. All who have taught the past year have been females, the first instance of the kind on record in town. Some of the schools would be much better served by male teachers in the winter, for many reasons which are obvious. Many of the teachers employed the past year were found well qualified in most of the branches required by law, but a larger number were not so. Most all were found deficient on some point. Nearly all failed in the late legalized study of Physiology, in our common schools. It is doubtful whether all could have spelled *Physiology*, if it had been put to them. We have but eight unmarried, available native teachers in town, and all but one were educated at our district schools.

Some people entertain the absurd opinion that large numbers of teachers can be secured competent to teach all the higher branches of an English education for \$15 a month and "board round." Those persons are the ones to choose for prudential committees. If our town is a criterion whereby to judge of others, where can such teachers be found. One reason of the paucity of teachers in our midst is, that hymen has been busy with his allurements of late, and lured no less than fourteen teachers from our school rooms within a few months and is still flourishing his wand in the faces of others. Marriage has had its good effect in this, that it has disposed of many of our poor teachers, for the present, at least; but on the other hand it has drawn away some of our most efficient ones.

Now, what is to be done? It is thought if the following suggestions are observed that better teachers may be secured. As soon as district committees are chosen let them confer immediately with the Supt. Committee in relation to the particular wants in their districts, and then at once look about for a suitable person to fill the places. If no such persons are found at hand then immediately write to the principal of some Seminary or Teachers' Bureau, stating qualifications needed, length of school and the salary. If this is done the chances to procure proper teachers are better than to wait till the last moment, expecting the "mountain will come to the mouse." For winter schools it would be advis-

able to employ male teachers in some of our schools. In order to secure good ones, letters should be written to the Teachers' Bureau at Hanover as soon as the first of September, when the chances would be favorable for securing competent persons. By waiting history might repeat itself in the case of last December, where a teacher failed in one of our districts and a Junior student from Hanover aspired to the duties and honors of a pedagogue. He was twenty-one years old, and a rustier fellow in his position it would be hard to find. He went to the school room on Friday (unlucky day) and occupied it eleven hours and thirty minutes. When he returned to his boarding place it was noticed that his phiz wore a lugubrious expression. His red eyes were lachrymose and his wet pocket handkerchief was evidence of its frequent application to his nose. Experts diagnosed the sufferer and pronounced his complaint nostalgia. He returned to the classic halls of old Dartmouth on the Monday following, expecting to find there a solace for all his woe. He was not examined in *base ball*, an amusement fostered in that institution; he might have been good at that. This episode brings to mind the epitaph of an infant which reads thus: "Since I was so quickly done for, I wonder what I was begun for."

MEMORIZING.

It is a well established fact, that by proper exercise of the muscles of the human body, they become enlarged, strengthened and more ready to perform what the will requires, than otherwise. We need no stronger evidence of the above statement than in the enlargement of the blacksmith's arm and power, the pedestrian's feet and legs and in the general power of persons who are accustomed to the handling of heavy weights. Trainers of athletes know how to make such facts useful. Reasoning from a postulate and by analogy, it is claimed that the human brain is susceptible of enlargement, and its functions strengthened by the same process—exercise. Now, memory being one of the functions of the brain, and a good memory so desirable in all the walks of life, why not advocate proper means to strengthen it? Some educators claim that memorizing makes mere parrots of children; but such persons have not studied the full bearing of memory on suc-

cess in life. There is a period in the school days of children when their minds are not analytical. At such times the memory can be made stronger by application to certain studies. The spelling-book is an efficient aid in cultivating memory. Geography, if properly taught, will do much to bring about so desirable an end. A part of the Geography lesson should consist in repeating twice all the principal rivers, lakes, mountains, capes and noted places in a country. Mural outline maps would be a great helper. By association and concatenation of sounds a lasting impression is made. Some people object to young pupils' studying Grammar. They say *young* pupils cannot understand it. The assertion is admitted. But suppose they cannot understand it when young, there will come a time when they will understand what has been *committed* and its application will be made without more study; and, moreover, the memory will be strengthened. The committal of poetic and prose writings, for recitations, is conducive to a retentive memory. A distinguishing trait in every person who has made a strong mark in the world's history, is to retain and use at a proper time what has passed. Teachers, then, should see that their *young* pupils should have their due share of "Line upon line and precept upon precept," because upon a little reflection it will be seen that mankind would be but little above the brute creation without a retentive memory.

BOOK-KEEPING.

Messervey's single-entry Book keeping has been sanctioned as a text book in our schools the past year. It covers all the ground necessary to be learned by the *common* student. No scholar should leave school before having mastered this little work. Boys should begin early to keep a *cash account* of their income and expenditures. At the end of a year they will be astonished to learn how much of their hard earnings have gone for tops and whistles. Perhaps a large aggregate item has gone to make smoke!

PHYSIOLOGY.

It is made mandatory, by an act of legislation, that all teachers hereafter, if required by the committee, shall be examined and found qualified to teach physiology in common schools; therefore,

Hutchinson's elementary text book on the above named subject has been introduced in town as a study for the advanced scholars. The work treats of the structure and functions of the human body, sanitary and sanatory measures, alcohol—its uses and abuses, tobacco and narcotics generally, etc., etc.

DISCIPLINE.

Teachers, according to law, are made the custodians of school children from the time they leave their homes until they return, as much so as when they are in the school-room. Pupils are required to obey their teachers right or wrong in their requirements; if wrong, parent and pupils have their remedy. It will be seen from the foregoing statement, that if all parties understand it, schools can be governed easily. It will not do for pupils and parents to make laws unto themselves and undertake to enforce them. Pupils, who will not obey the reasonable requirements of their teachers, can, by law, be deprived of the needful benefits derived from the school-room. Very few scholars, it is hoped, can be found in our midst, who would be willing to suffer the disgrace of being expelled from school for misconduct. Neither can the community suffer from the disobedience of mischievous, ungovernable pupils. Young people can serve themselves and others better by learning that others have rights which they *must* respect.

GEORGE ALDRICH, } Superintending
EDWIN GUILD, } School Committee.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Pupils who have been punctual in attendance one term are marked 1; for two terms, 2; for the year, 3.

DISTRICT NO. 2—PRIMARY SCHOOL.—Eddie Mack, 3, Robert Thomas, 1, Katie Moran, 1, Maud Flemming, 1, Katie Hartnett, 2, Nellie Hartnett, 1, Mary Collier, 1, Maggie Connors, 1, Gertrude Davis, 1, Ida Thomas, 1, John A. Lynch, 2, Dennie Hennesy, 1, Frank Davis, 1, Willie Dalton, 1, Josie Riley, 1, Nellie Powers. GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Bride A. Dalton, 3, Willie DeLaney, 1, James Landers, 3, Willie Lane, 3, Eddie Lynch, 2, Willie Moran, 3, Mary Shawnesy, 1, James O'Connor, 2, Frank Sylvester, 1.

DISTRICT NO. 3.—Clarence A. Wetherbee, 1, Ivers L. Wetherbee, 2, Bennie Kidder, 2.

DISTRICT NO. 5.—Clara F. Hodskins, 3, Lilla M. Thompson, 3, Carrie S. Walkins, 3, Louisa E. Watkins, 3, Hattie M. Watkins, 3, Wallace C. Leonard, 1, Perley A. Watkins, 1, Willie B. Britton, 1.

DISTRICT NO. 6.—Willie R. Selkirk, 2, Truth Fisher, 1, Lena M. Roy, 2, Edith M. Roy, 2, Jennie S. Selkirk, 2, Stella M. Slade, 1.

DISTRICT NO. 7.—Flora B. Pratt, 2, Jennie L. Pratt.

DISTRICT NO. 8.—Mattie A. Kingman, 3, Winnie S. Kingman, 2, Gertrude M. Towne, 2, Willie E. Towne, 2, George S. Towne, 1.

DISTRICT NO. 10.—Percie L. Hall, 1, Clara B. Houghton, 2, George B. Tiffany, 3, Katie J. Tiffany, 2, Eddie Taggard, 1, George B. Taggard, 1, Willie A. Taggard, 1, Persis L. Hall, 1.

DISTRICT NO. 11.—George H. Parkinson, 3, Edward E. Parkinson, 1, Ella A. Estabrooks, 1, Nellie Wilbur.

DISTRICT NO. 12.—Nellie E. Benson, 2, Minnie A. Miller, 2, Mattie A. Carpenter, 1, William H. Lovell, 1, Frank E. Towne, 1.

DISTRICT NO. 13.—Harry J. Jennison, 3, Bertha L. Wellington, 2, George F. Jennison, 3, George H. Comstock, 1, Nellie W. Pratt, 1.

DISTRICT NO. 14.—Lizzie O. Angier, 1, Stella J. Allen, 1, Myrtie E. Briggs, 2, Susie C. Brown, 2, Hattie N. Brown, 2, Fred. Holland, 3, Eloise Holland, 2, Mary Benson, 1, Rosa Bell Hatch, 1, Harry Benson, 1, Harry Hatch, 1, John Hubbard, 1.

REPORT OF Superintending School Committee

FOR DISTRICT NO. 1

The superintendent of the schools in this district respectfully submits the following report for the year ending March 1, 1885:

Information in regard to the length of schools, number of scholars, percentage of attendance, etc., will be found in the table herewith presented; in addition to which, school officers are required to "make such suggestions relative to the schools as they may think useful."

No intelligent person can observe carefully the working of our schools without seeing points where improvement might and should be made. Among these, I will mention one to which your attention has been called in previous reports; I refer to the adoption of some plan or course of studies for our intermediate and high schools. I believe an arrangement of this kind could be made and pursued which would stimulate our pupils to more earnest individual efforts, facilitate the work of our teachers, and accomplish much better results. I earnestly ask the attention of parents and patrons of the schools to the merits of this reform and if any should desire to accomplish it, I suggest that you can hardly expect the work to be undertaken by any teacher or official except by the request and with the aid and support of parents and others who should be most interested. But if there is no inclination or ambition to give to our pupils a more systematic and well-balanced course of study, I hope that improvement in one or two particulars will be insisted upon. Most of

the pupils in each of our schools appear very deficient in ability to make clear and definite statements of facts or principles which they are endeavoring to learn. Their power of expression or proper use of language is not sufficiently and properly cultivated. This discipline should be commenced in the primary school and there be made and considered an important point of every exercise and recitation and the same course pursued in each of the higher grades. Again, it would seem that since most of our children receive no school instruction beyond what they obtain in our grammar or high school, they should there learn something of the structure and care of their bodies. To most pupils a general knowledge of the structure and functions of the organs of the human system; of how, in case of accident, to stop the flow of blood from a severed artery or vein, would be of more value than a knowledge of algebra. And yet the latter is wont to receive a much larger share of attention than the former.

No more difficult or important task is incumbent upon a school committee than the selection and employment of teachers; and although the necessity for a change has occurred during the past year more frequently than is consistent with the highest interests of our schools, yet it is better to recognize such necessity promptly when it arises and make the best change their judgment and means can accomplish.

In the opinion of your committee, the work done by our teachers during the past term has been such as to make it desirable that their services should be continued. They will need your counsel and your co-operation and I believe will welcome any suggestions or criticisms, kindly made by those who have at heart the best interests of the school. Thus may our schools be made better and be a source of lasting benefit to the entire community.

C. R. CROWELL,

Superintending School Committee for District No. 1.

Table for District No. 1. 1884-5.

	SPRING TERM.			FALL TERM.			WINTER TERM.		
	High School.	Intermediate.	Primary.	High School.	Intermediate.	Primary.	High School.	Intermediate.	Primary.
Length of School in weeks,	10	10	10	11	11	11	12	12	12
Wages of Male Teachers per month.	72	40		72	40		72	40	
Wages of Female Teachers per month.	34	32	32	33	33	32	37	42	32
Number of Scholars over 4 years old,	19	29	32	26	28	42	27	36	26
Average daily Attendance,	.74	.94	.86	.83	.91	.85	.72	.90	.76
Percentage of daily Attendance,									
Number not Absent,	3	10	7	7	12	8	2	9	0
Number not Absent nor tardy,	2	7	4	7	4	5	2	8	0
No. of visits by Superintending Committee,	2	2	2	2	2	2	5	3	4
Number of visits by Prudential Committee,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Number of visits by others,	23	9	9	18	29	26	30	72	44

Table No. 1. Summer Schools.

DISTRICTS.	Av. length of school in weeks.	Wages of Female teacher per month.	No. of Scholars.	Per cent of at'dance	Average attendance.	Visits of School Committee.	Visits by Citizens and others.
2 Primary.	22	42.00	60	92	54	4	38
2 Grammar.	22	42.00	42	92	34.5	4	25
3	18	22.50	19	80	7.50	4	25
4 No Register							
5	16	20.00	9	98	8	4	34
6	25	20.00	6	100	6	3	27
7	21	23.00	3	93	2.08	2	31
8	23	23.66	10	92	9	2	18
9	22	22.00	6	89	5.75	3	14
10	15	20.00	11	90	6	4	26
11	16	18.00	8	88	6	4	41
12	19	22.00	14	71	9.94	4	29
13	17	20.00	8	90	5.52	5	66
14	17	24.00	20	94	17	4	21

Table No. 2 Winter Schools.

DISTRICTS.	Length of school in weeks.	Wages of Female teachers per month.	No. of Scholars.	Per cent of attendance.	Average attendance.	Visits of supt. com.	Visits of Citizens and others.
2 Primary.	13	34.00	66	92	52	3	28
2 Grammar.	13	44.00	41	92	37	2	6
3	9	24.00	13	86	8.6	5	
4 No Register.							
5	12	24.00	13	92	9	2	15
6		20.00	6	100	5.5	3	24
7		23.00	3	96	2.4	3	46
8		23.62	10	92	9	3	5
9	6	20.00	9	90	8	1	
10	11.4	26.00	14	97	10	2	10
11	9.6	22.00	8	88	7	2	5
12	10	25.00	8	89	7.3	2	17
13	12	22.00	6	90	5.5	2	14
14	10	28.00	20	95	18.57	2	7

